



Department of
Toxic Substances
Control

*Preventing
environmental
damage from
hazardous waste,
and restoring
contaminated
sites for all
Californians.*



State of California



California
Environmental
Protection Agency

Fact Sheet, July 2007

Draft Post-Closure Permit Available for Review for the Blue Hills Disposal Facility in West Fresno County

Anuncio

Si prefere hablar con alguien en español acerca de ésta información, favor de llamar a Jesus Cruz, Departamento de Control de Substancias Tóxicas. El número de teléfono es 916-255-3315.

Public comment is invited on the proposed post-closure permit for the Blue Hills Disposal facility located about 10 miles northeast of Coalinga in Fresno County. If approved, the post-closure permit will require long-term monitoring of the closed hazardous waste disposal facility.

Facility Description and History

The Blue Hills Disposal Facility (Facility) is owned and operated by the County of Fresno Department of Public Works and Planning. It covers about 32 acres, of which approximately 4.5 acres were used for the disposal of hazardous wastes between 1971 and 1983 and from 1983 to 1991 for nonhazardous waste. The Facility generally received waste only for two weeks in the spring and two weeks in the fall. The wastes consisted of empty herbicide and pesticide containers generated by the agricultural community. Sporadic disposal of other less-common waste included such items as toxic waste generated from the Territory of Guam (Federal Government 1974), and chemical spill wastes resulting from highway accidents within California.

Public Comment Period

Comment Period: July 18, 2007 to September 4, 2007

The 45-day public comment period for the draft Post-Closure Permit begins on July 18, 2007 and ends on September 4, 2007. Copies of the draft permit and other documents related to the draft permit can be viewed at the information repositories listed in this fact sheet. Written and emailed comments must be postmarked by September 4, 2007, and sent to:

Mr. Peter Bailey, Project Manager
Department of Toxic Substances Control
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, CA 95826
PBailey@dtsc.ca.gov

Before making a final determination on the draft Permit, DTSC will review and respond in writing to all public comments. A Response to Comments document will be sent to all those who submitted public comments and to those who request a copy.



The hazardous waste disposal area of the Facility consisted of four large trenches referred to as waste management units. Three of the waste management units were closed in 1982. In 1983, only non-hazardous pesticide containers were placed in the remaining waste management unit. The disposal of all waste ceased at the Facility in the fall of 1991. Construction of an approved, engineered final cover over the four closed waste management units was completed in December 1992.

The Post-Closure Permit Process

DTSC examines an application for a post-closure permit through four main steps:

- 1) DTSC reviews the permit application for completeness. If necessary, DTSC issues a Notice of Deficiency requiring additional information or changes to the existing information in the application.
- 2) DTSC prepares a draft post-closure permit or permit denial based on whether the facility's application meets the regulatory standards.
- 3) DTSC solicits and receives comments from the public during a formal public comment period of at least 45 days. DTSC holds a public meeting and a public hearing, if requested, or if DTSC thinks there is significant public interest.
- 4) After considering and responding to all comments, DTSC makes a decision to issue, issue with changes, or deny the permit.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

Under the California Environmental Quality Act, DTSC must evaluate whether the proposed actions may have any significant impacts on human health and the environment. As part of this evaluation, DTSC has drafted a Notice of Exemption which concludes this facility's permit will not result in any impact to human health or the environment.

Enforcement History

DTSC inspects Blue Hills on a regular basis to ensure they are in compliance with California laws, regulations, and the permit conditions. No violations were found during inspections over the past five years.

You can Participate in our Permitting Decisions

The draft Post-Closure Permit and other site-related documents are available for public review at the information repository listed below. The entire administrative record for Blue Hills is available in the DTSC office in Sacramento. The administrative record includes copies of the permit application, the draft CEQA Notice of Exemption, this fact sheet and other site-specific documents.

Coalinga-Huron District Library

305 North 4th Street
Coalinga, CA 93210
559-935-1676

Hours:

Monday through Thursday: 10:00 am - 8:00 pm
Friday and Saturday: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Sunday: Closed

Department of Toxic Substances Control
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, CA 95826

Call (916) 255-3758 to request an appointment to view the administrative record.

DTSC Contacts

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8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, California 95826
(916) 255-3602
PBailey@dtsc.ca.gov

Linda Janssen
DTSC Public Participation Specialist
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, California 95826
(916) 255-3594 or toll-free (866) 495-5651
LJanssen@dtsc.ca.gov

Members of the media please contact

Ron Baker, Public Information Officer
Department of Toxic Substances Control
(916) 324-3142
RBaker@dtsc.ca.gov

For more information about our department, please visit our website at www.dtsc.ca.gov.



Notice to Hearing Impaired Individuals

TDD users can obtain information about the United Technologies facility by using the California State Relay Service at 888-877-5378. Please ask to speak to Linda Janssen at 916-255-3594.

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Are You On DTSC's Mailing List?

If you did not receive this fact sheet on the **Blue Hills Disposal Facility** in the mail and would like to receive information in the future, please complete the information below and mail it to Linda Janssen, DTSC, 8800 Cal Center Drive, Sacramento, CA 95826. You also may email your request to be added to or deleted from this mailing list by sending your request to ljanssen@dtsc.ca.gov.

- ☐ Please **remove** my name from the mailing list
- ☐ Please **add** my name to the mailing list

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Note: While this mailing list is solely for DTSC use, the list is considered a public record.



Department of Toxic Substances Control
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, CA 95826

Inside:

Information about the draft Post-Closure Permit for the Blue Hills Disposal Facility in West Fresno County, and announcement of a public comment period.